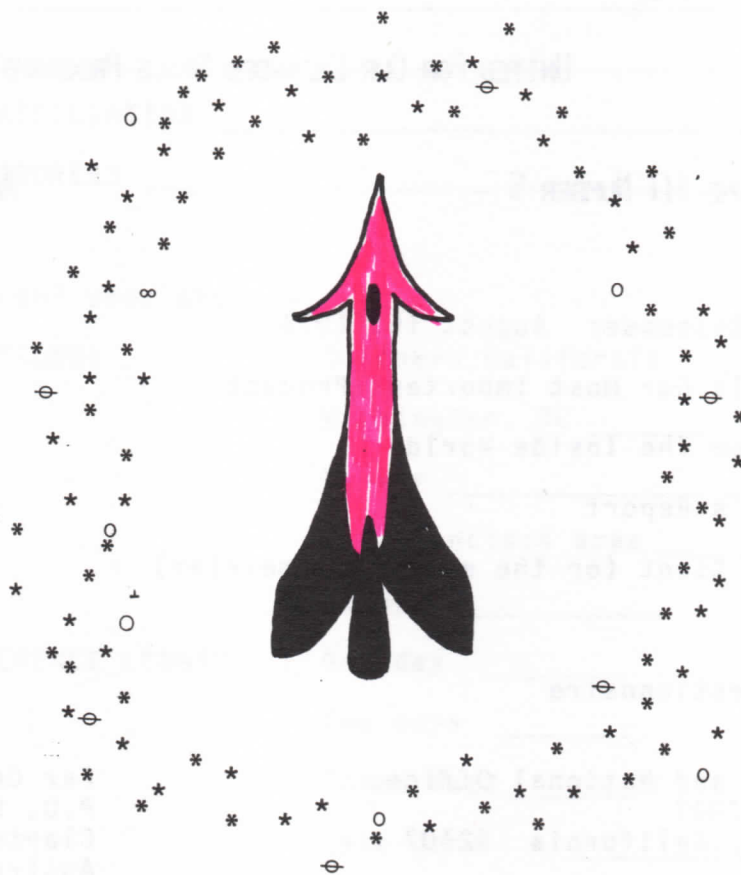


APRIL 1976

MORALE BOOSTER



"SPACE IS A BETTER PLACE"

Big Bonanza Issue !!!

BIG BONANZA ISSUE !!!!!

MORALE BOOSTER

the official organ of

UNITED FOR OUR EXPANDED SPACE PROGRAMS

VOLUME III NUMBER 5

APRIL 1976

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+ * + * + * + Stimulus/Response: August 15, 1976 + * + * + * + *

"Enclosed is a check for placing me in the active status of U.F.O.E.S.P. I don't know where [time has] gone but. . . I have thought of [the organization] several times as I've watched the pictures on T.V. from Mars, and thought that these past few weeks have been exciting. . . . I think everyone was hoping for more immediate evidence of [life] from the pictures. So far, they (pictures) appear to show a rather bleak landscape. It's still exciting to think that mankind has actually made contact with another planet. . . ." Suzanne Paulsruide/ 2407 Malad Street, Boise ID 83705.

It is difficult to speak coherently about the fantastic news from Mars. For whether or not life is found to be indigenous to the planet, the Viking Robots I and II have proven, even in their early stages of transmission, that Mars is livable. As you have noted, Suzanne, the Board of Governors has gone bananas over the news and views from Mars! The pink sky (who would have thought, who would have foretold such a preposterous yet perfectly logical idea before Viking?), the sand dunes, the enormous amount of oxygen, water and radioactive carbon in the soil sample, the weird rocks, shiny plain. . . well, it sounds like Arizona even though it's far more alien and I am confident that we can adapt somehow to its resources. The most important fact to realize about any object in space, any planetary body or satellite or habitat, that each has its unique resources and advantages as well as obstacles to overcome and hostile forces to master. We go into space because of the enormous opportunities which will befall us by doing so. It is not an escapist venture, though Lord knows there's enough reason to want to escape these days; nor is the movement into space based upon simple or pure esthetic or philosophical considerations, though there is little question that elements of such underlay part of the motive force for the rush to the stars. First and foremost, we go for the resources. This Earth, this wretched Earth, festers and boils and groans and croaks with the indecencies and liberties taken upon it by dull-witted man. We have ruined this world and must prepare for the possibility that it has been ruined forever. This reason propels us into space. So give us Mars, and the Moon too, why not Titan and Ceres, give us these worlds to create as habitats for men and women of the Third Stone from the Sun. It cannot be denied that desperation forces the issue; but without boldness, imagination, and a larger resource base the issue will all die. And the issue is us!

"I'm a little late in responding to your letter of May 16th, but wish to thank you for the material you were kind enough to forward. Because of the delay in landing the Viking spacecraft, I'm afraid that I will not be able to meet with you until, perhaps, this October.

"There are a number of things which UFOESP could assist, that is if your time and resources permit. At this stage of the game, FASST and the AIAA are sponsoring a student (college and University-age) conference on the search for life in our solar system. This conference will be held, if our schedule holds, October 8th at the J.P.L. facilities in Pasadena, California. We should have a listing of speakers within a few weeks. Emphasis will be placed on the Viking mission, but also, as an added attraction, the role of man in planetary exploration.

"I would appreciate any help you could offer in getting the word out to those students who would be interested in attending. The conference, I can promise you, will be a good one!

"Also, NASA has asked me to identify groups, such as yours, who have student members interested in the future of the space program. It is possible, that FASST will develop a future program to bring representatives of all the special interest groups together, to discuss where the space program is headed, or where it should be headed. I will certainly keep you informed if this possibility does develop.

". . . Please keep in touch and keep up the good work." Leonard David, Director Student Programs, FASST/ 1785 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington DC 20036.

"Thank you very much for your letter of July 12. In truth, if you had written any sooner, our reply would still come at the time it does as we have been rather overwhelmed by. . .preparations for our appearance at the 34th World Science-Fiction Convention. . .! Furthermore, with your visit to Southern California postponed until October, there is a stronger possibility of meeting you than if you had come in June. It is unfortunate that Viking has been delayed with respect to landing but we have a compensation in its remarkable photographs of the various landing sites.

"We will do what we can to publicize the conference proposed in October. Please send us as soon as possible all information you have about the conference. In particular, we would appreciate information about conference fees, hours, panels, and the like. We may perhaps attend but must wait until our return from MidAmeriCon in early September to be certain about anything. In any event, we will at least print your letter in full in Morale Booster and will publish other details as we learn them. I am a student at the University of California at Santa Barbara, majoring in Geology, and if I were provided with 75 to 100 leaflets or sheets about the conference I would gladly place them in all the mailboxes of the students of the Geology Department. I could perhaps post them on Campus. Another possibility is publicity at MidAmeriCon. We could easily distribute flyers there or simply talk it up with a small display. We would be happy to provide some assistance. . .but are rather limited. Thus, we are not able to print or produce any publicity ourselves. We have a couple of months yet so we should have sufficient time to discuss the matter and reach profitable conclusions.

"It was good to hear that FASST may develop a future program ' . . .to bring . . .all the special interest groups together. . .'. Although your idea is original, it bears resemblance to our proposed conference CHRYSE-1. . ., which we have proposed for Southern California for the summer of 1977. Although the Board of Governors of U.F.O.E.S.P. has begun to work with the United Futurist Association. . .to prepare this conference, the program, location, and attendees are no where near being determined at this point. We would, in fact, like to enlist the aid of two or three other organizations to prepare a broad, wide-ranging conference, staged at the national level, exploring the implications and possibilities. . .of man's exploration and use of space. I have many ideas on this subject but hesitate to speak them unprompted. In my opinion, the time is very propitious for an attempt to gather the many diverse elements of the population working for and towards Man's expansion into space together, in the form of their representatives, to at least gain a broad and coherent understanding of what the future holds for the Space Revolution.

"In any event, we would like to continue these exchanges. . . Your interests are, of course, much broader than ours, extending across the entire spectrum of science and technology. Yet, in its own way, the study and use of the space environment spans the same spectrum. Thank you. . .for your encouraging. . .letter. . ."

"Thank you very much for your July 17th letter! I believe that I can be of assistance in the organizing of CHRYSE and other projects.

"At present, I am an assistant papers chairman for the next convention of the Western Amateur Astronomers. . .to be held August 19th-21st in San Marcos, Calif. . . The WAA is a conglomerate of many smaller amateur astronomy groups. I am a member of one such group, the Palomar Amateur Astronomers. . . The PAA is the host of this year's convention, which is expected to draw 200 people.

"My main duty has been to obtain professional astronomers and space scientists to lecture at our papers sessions. One man who has agreed to speak is Dr. Thomas Heppenheimer of the Center for Space Science. He is extremely active in space colonization studies, and was a part of the NASA/Ames-Stanford ASEE 1975 Summer Study of Space Colonization. . . He will probably lecture Saturday, August 21st, on the topic of space industrialization and colonization.

"I have been in contact with Carolyn Henson of the L-5 Society, and we've discussed the possibility of setting up a booth at the convention to distribute newsletters and information on space colonization. Perhaps the UFOESP would like also to run an

information booth? Because I have many other duties at the convention, I will not be able to devote much time to the booths. Therefore, other members of each organization will have to organize and participate in the booth work. I would like to hear your ideas and suggestions on this matter.

"I feel that the WAA convention would be an excellent opportunity for members of the UFOESP, UFA, and L-5 Society. . .to get together to discuss CHRYSE and other ideas. In the event that you're interested in the convention I've enclosed brochures and a tentative schedule. (In addition to Dr. Heppenheimer, we hope to have a spokesman from JPL to address us on the Viking missions to Mars. Other lectures will center on astronomy and astrophysics.)

"After the convention, I'll be leaving. . .[for] three week[s]. . . . After I get back, please let me know [about] MidAmeriCon. . . . The detailed work on CHRYSE should begin in September, and I will help you with that. My experience with the WAA Con will be of use, I hope. But above all, 'Chryse's planning' should begin early.

"I'll also be able to assist UFOESP by article writing, and by getting in touch with those space groups mentioned in your letter. I would appreciate receiving a list of UFOESP members who live in my general area. . .so that we can meet and get organized. Concerning non-literary talents: I can draw, but I'm no artist; I am a terrible public speaker, terrified by audiences. . .

"I would like to thank you for making it possible for me to direct my energies in a constructive, collective fashion. I think it is very important for the human race to extend itself physically, mentally, and spiritually into outer space. Space will be the source of truly new experiences and insights.

"It is my hope that new insights will cause a change in humankind's thought patterns, so that those who remain on this beautiful and remarkable planet. . .will live in freedom and peace--making the others that live elsewhere a little more homesick for their Mother [Earth]. . ." (emphasis in original) Jeff Bytof/ 1847 Freda Lane, Cardiff-by-the-Sea, CA 92007.

Not everyone is in the position or has the resource base necessary to devote as much attention to UFOESP . as Jeff expresses in this letter. Yet he clearly illustrates the wide range of ways the membership can aid the organization's work beyond simple membership. As old as the Space Revolution may be, the stage upon which it unfolds is so large that there is always room for another thespian, scene designer, costumer, director, writer and so forth.

The last paragraph of the above letter illuminates the issue in a way that needs to be done more often. Spacers need no justification for the expansion into space beyond science and evolution. Yet the Space Revolution's profoundest effects will take place on Earth for many decades to come. These effects will be beneficial in the main to the planet. From this expectation grows the fervor of the space revolutionary for a spacer's actions satisfy more than egoistic or esthetic desires. The world of course cannot be 'saved'. It is too late for salvation. But the world can be expanded to a larger resource base and in that expansion lies hope for salvation for somebody. This is not the place to detail Nuclear War and Eco-Catastrophe but enough has been said in previous articles to give any sensible person a queasy feeling when the thought of limitation to this single planet with its exploding population and resource demands crosses the convolutions of the brain. The brain knows where it's at: Space is the place!

"Please send 100 Space is the Place doorstickers. Enclosed find check for \$11.00. Thanks." John Arbo, Deadbreath Productions/ 36 Erie Avenue, Midland Park NJ 07432.

And so we progress! More important than the amount of money generated by the advertisements in The Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction is the number of doorstickers which we distributed. This individual will not distribute his hundred

stickers without some talking and imagination. Yet their very presence will provide motivation for the effort. We are gearing for a long campaign. It is great comfort to know that hundreds and hundreds of people all across this nation now know about U.F.O.E.S.P. and the number grows daily. True, not many are actively engaged in work with us; yet their awareness is often solid and not transitory. Those who possess doorstickers, those who have been members in the past, those who have read about the organization in other groups' publications, those who have talked with us at the two conventions we have attended to date, all have impressions or memories of us that last and pique them. Someday, perhaps today, some one or two or three or more of these previous contacts will contact us, somehow, again. Each time around U.F.O.E.S.P. is stronger and more attractive. And so we progress!

"Viking enters the domain of Martian space--like the Vikings of some 400 thousand days gone by--probing the glimmering shores of a frontier world. The sands of the red war god radiate an aura of light bearing a taunting challenge that reaches out towards the blue-green orb of turmoil and strife. . .; a challenge with a message that promises to be a vital key to man's tomorrows. Now and again, the Viking hammer must lash out and land once again on a strange, new, wonderful shore! The resounding noise of contact--the crackle and static--transmitted throughout the void of space and time will be an integral part of a medicine known to man as the 'space effort'. All mankind must drink this medicine for it will be the necessary substance in which to combat the plagues of self-ignorance and stagnation. Man's own ignorance of himself--gateway to self-destruction; this is the enemy man will enlist the aid of Mars, the god of war, to help fight.

"The space adventure really is the key to man's own survival; it is the key to world peace. It is an adventure that will contribute to a powerful new perspective; it will shift man's restless energies and re-direct man's spirit. And the space adventure will do more than guarantee man's survival--it will teach him to live!

"The national conference. . .planned some months ago is an issue that should be kept alive. You and I realize that the many fruits of space exploration already permeate the very core of man's existence on Earth. The various space spin-offs here on terra firma are taken for granted. It is to us to carry the torch and continue the fight to awaken and open the eyes of people everywhere to the potentials that yawn ahead. Whatever other groups or individuals oriented toward our 'astronautical' aims that you may have discovered in the time that has elapsed since our last communique, should be relayed to UFA so that we can open communication channels with them.

"UFA is planning an expedition to the Borrego desert on the weekend of July 31-August 1. This effort will be known as BORREGO RECONNAISSANCE EXPEDITION-1 (BRE-1). Various experiments and equipment will be deployed during BRE-1. We also plan to film this for documentation as well as tape our impressions and photograph the surrounding terrain and BRE-1 activities. In many respects, BRE-1 will probably simulate a manned planetary or lunar landing!

"Though UFA has conducted expeditions before, BRE-1 is a project that we hope will have long range significance. In addition to going out and searching for the geological elements and clues that will assist UFA in one day deploying Star Base One (which we've already discussed in an early letter), BRE-1 will serve commemorative purposes. . . . It is hoped that the photos and other results of BRE-1 can be utilized for future UFA campaigns.

"With this in mind, UFA extends an invitation to UFOESP to join us in the BRE-1 endeavor. We've kept our BRE-1 crew size down to a minimum of just a few individuals due to the extreme conditions involved in conducting an expedition to the desert during the blazing heat of the summer. But we expect to be sufficiently equipped to confront such an environment. We'd very much like to have you. . .or a few of your officers participate along side with our officers on this expedition provided you feel you have the stomachs for it.

"One of the symbolic features of this mission will be a UFA flag planting

remaining time (when the table was tended at all) the U.F.O.E.S.P. delegation managed the table. Since active solicitation for either L-5 or U.F.O.E.S.P. while the convention program was underway was prohibited and the free periods were usually for lunch or dinner or relief from the stuffiness of the dome, most of the time the table was unattended.

The attendance at the convention was modest (\approx 100 people though it varied from session to session) so the inquiries were modest, too, at the table. Though we had the opportunity to speak with only a dozen persons seriously, we feel there was marked progress as a result in our efforts to forge links with other spacer groups. The Treasurer had many conversations with Dr. Tom Heppenheimer, one of the co-founders of FASST (which now has 15,000 members) and author of a book on space colonies to be published the Spring of next year, who took our name and address with hopes to write to us soon. The President spoke with an award-winning amateur astronomer for some time on the problems and portents of the Space Revolution who insisted upon buying a doorsticker and who also took our name, address, and literature with hopes of writing in the near future. A great many people took copies of the Aussiecon ad and the Third Petition and we sold a number of doorstickers singly.

Success extended beyond these rewards. One additional bonus was the repeated support for CHRYSE evinced by all those with whom we spoke or who had had conversations with people close to the U.F.O.E.S.P. delegation. The current President of the Palomar Amateur Astronomers who hosted this year's WAA Convention, Richard Crockett, was especially enthused about CHRYSE and told our new Assistant President for Interorganizational Affairs that he would work for CHRYSE if it were held in the San Marcos area. In any event, we may be able to enlist the support of the PAA or other amateur astronomer groups soon. Perhaps more significantly, we learned at the WAA Convention that the L-5 Society attempted to get a huckster table at MidAmeriCon and failed, though they will still have a representative on a panel at the convention concerning "Life in the Solar System". They have requested our aid. They desire to share our table. Although the Board has determined that the participation L-5 wishes in our table cannot be arranged, the Board also has said that it will aid L-5 as much as possible. It is likely that L-5 will display some free literature in much the way that U.F.O.E.S.P. did at WAA Convention but it is quite unlikely that L-5 members will participate in the table personally in any way. This position is taken because of procedural details necessitated by the Convention Committee's rules and our wish to make MidAmeriCon the strongest effort we can by selling as many memberships, doorstickers, and literature as possible. In order to achieve this end, it will be necessary for the MidAmeriCon delegation to be able to manage the huckster table continuously if the response warrants it. And the membership should have no doubts that U.F.O.E.S.P. needs as much response as it can get if it is to carry on its work meaningfully for another year. We must build and build and build at MidAmeriCon and our only serious chance is the huckster table. Naturally, authors will be buttonholed, other spacer groups interviewed, bars hopped and informal conversations engaged whenever possible. We seek support everywhere from nearly everyone.

Beyond allowing L-5 to display some free literature the Board hopes to be able to learn from the MidAmeriCon delegation that L-5 will commit itself to the realization of CHRYSE. The L-5 representative will be speaking on a panel and looking for other forums so we hope the delegation will have serious discussions with that person (whose name is not known now by the Board) about CHRYSE, spacer co-operation, and ways to aid L-5 at the science-fiction convention without weakening UFOESP's work there. With a steering committee for CHRYSE comprised of members of the governing bodies of the Palomar Amateur Astronomers, L-5, and ourselves (perhaps UFA as well if it establishes better communications with us about the proposed conference), the first convocation of space enthusiasts will be viable and vibrant. If such national organizations as FASST or the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) or the World Future Society were to become involved in CHRYSE's preparation, we could be sure of an event drawing many hundreds of people and projects to further the Space Revolution arising

from the conference. We are not a large organization but we have capabilities not possessed by some others: we have a rationale for space which comprises many perspectives (economic, cultural, scientific, international relations), we have an experienced leadership (in academia, conventions, political understanding, and practical visions). The greater the cohesion of the membership, the stronger the Board of Governors, the fuller the communications with spacers everywhere, the more effective we will be in mobilizing the masses for space. There is great change within the land. Enormous events befall the world. Space is all around and everywhere, the greatest part of all things (real and imaginary). For the first time in history, it no longer restricts our movements. In a sense, we are in a race against ourselves. War, cataclysm, poverty, and booming numbers threaten all sanity and progress. The United States, on the cutting edge of history, has a last opportunity to free itself from its oppressions abroad and repressions at home. Let us declare our independence of the narrow minded world. Let us declare our independence of the militarism of the world. Let us declare ourselves independent of the economic blackmail of the world. To do so requires enormous sacrifice (but only in relative terms, not absolute ones) but space makes it all worth it. It is the purpose of MidAmeriCon delegation to practice and pronounce this message among a natural constituency of the Revolution. It is the purpose of CHRYSE-1 to prepare national action to move the U.S.A. into Outer Space.

In order to realize CHRYSE-1's potential it will be essential for U.F.O.E.S.P. to have close contacts with many spacer organizations. We are fortunate that at this critical time, one of the active members has stepped forward to accept the Assistant Presidency for Interorganizational Affairs. Jeff Bytof takes a position which has been vacant since early this year with the disappearance of our first Assistant President for Interorganizational Affairs, Delmar Tompkins. A physics major at the University of California at San Diego in his junior year, Mr. Bytof has been active in the Palomar Amateur Astronomers. He recently joined the L-5 Society and when he read about us in their April 1976 issue of L-5 News he wrote and soon joined us. A young man with boundless enthusiasm, great reservoirs of energy, fine imagination and a willingness to work, he has already written and spoken with many spacer groups. He is more enthusiastic about CHRYSE than the President and we expect him to make a major role and name for himself with the convocation's creation.

Since many months have passed since formal notice of the Board of Governors composition was last given, let us take a brief moment to introduce them. The President of U.F.O.E.S.P. and of the Board of Governors is J. Graham Maughan, Geology major in his fifth year at university, currently enrolled at the University of California at Santa Barbara. The Treasurer is Linda Strickler, owner of Galaxy Typing and Services (a specialist typing service primarily). The General Secretary of Antares Chamber is Carol Andrews, an administrative secretary at San Francisco State University. There is one position vacant (Assistant President for Light Industry) and all active members not already holding office are encouraged to inquire. There are also a number of other positions (Assistant President for Elections and Records, General Secretary of Bellatrix Chamber, General Secretary of Epsilon Eridani Chamber, for example) which have never had occupants but which the Board could sorely use filled rather than empty. We should brace for a large surge in membership by having a fully constituted Board when the wave crests. Once again, all active members are urged to contact the Board for more information.

This column will close this month with brief remarks on Far Centaurus Chamber. Last month "Stimulus/Response" carried a letter from a Mr. Zajda in Australia who refused to aid the Board with the post office box U.F.O.E.S.P. acquired there. In the reply to the letter printed in the same issue, mention was made of plans to remove this difficulty. There are two parts: temporary and permanent. The temporary portion refers to the effort to enlist the aid of H. Ledingham, a friend of the President's and Treasurer's, in this matter. We have every reason to hope for success. The permanent part refers to the intention of the MidAmeriCon delegation to attend the (proposed) reunion of fans who attended the 33rd World Science-Fiction Convention in Melbourne last year. Since the Board sent a delegation to Australia early this year and placed

an advertisement in the Program Book for the convention as well as possessing a post office box in the Melbourne vicinity, the delegation is confident that it can not only attend the reunion, providing it takes place, but solicit support for Far Centaurus Chamber. For over a year, the Board has been preparing the foundation and framework for a greatly enlarged organization. This Fall should bring the realization of the expected growth. We should not be at all surprised if by the end of the year we can claim international status. Let's throw our backs into it! Our policy is simple: build and build and build until we die in the stars!

>>>>> >>>>> Voices From The Inside World <<<<< <<<<<

Mechanical Man roams the solar system. The worlds which have appeared as only faint smudges against sky for thousands of years to the watchers below now flash across television screens all over the world in an instant. With the successful landing of the Viking I lander in late July and the successful orbital burn of Viking II in early August, Mechanical Man took the second major step on the road to colonization of the Solar System. The Red Planet, silent and chill, presents vistas not unlike many on Earth. The soil is rich in oxygen and water; the air is nearly all carbon dioxide. There may be no life on Mars but Viking has definitely established that Mars is livable!

The experiments on the Martian environment will continue for many months, in some cases, years. Though only two sites of the vast planet will be studied, the information gained will outstrip in importance all that accumulated in the thousands of years previous to the Viking missions. This knowledge will illuminate many Earth processes such as mass wasting, wind erosion, flash floods, volcanic activity, perhaps even life itself. The process we witness is the growing enmeshment of Earth in the larger activities of the solar system. Nearly two decades have marked this enmeshment during which time the perspective of humanity on Earth, Moon, and Star has changed many times over. No longer does the Cosmos seem remote from mundane acts or habits.

Let us continue our contemplations on Mars. If life is found to exist on the planet, no matter how primitive the form, the entire edifice of knowledge will be shaken to its foundations. It will, in fact, collapse for all knowledge is built upon the conception of humanity's (Life's) centrality in the Universe (i.e., its confinement to Earth). Beyond the immediate refutation of this axiom, the discovery of life upon Mars would strongly suggest that Life (humanity in some form?) is common to the Universe. Evolution commonly characterizes the development through time of an event, phenomenon, or entity. Life on Mars would suggest that the animate Universe blends with the inanimate Universe throughout Reality.

Yet such a stupendous discovery would also bring its doubts and fears. Not all life is friendly on Earth and there is no reason to assume that all (any) life on Mars is not inimical to humans. Consequently, a very cautious approach to manned missions to land on Mars or probes to return Martian samples to Earth would be adopted. On the other hand, conclusive findings that Mars is sterile would alter profoundly the edifice of human knowledge because we have learned already, and the lesson can only be emphasized with further experiments and data, that Mars is livable. There is plenty of oxygen, water, carbon dioxide, nitrogen, trace elements, iron, titanium and many other elements and compounds vital to life processes and human society. If Mars indeed has no life, the Earth will still rock from the Viking missions' results for a world with all the resources we need, with vistas not unlike some of our own, with skies both radically different (day) and similar (night) to Earth's will have opened before our eyes. We cannot say at this time what form the expansion of humanity into space will take. Perhaps the construction of Space Habitats, perhaps classic lunar and Martian colonies, perhaps only a slow movement to space stations hundreds or thousands of miles above Earth. Yet the discovery that Mars has no life but all the ingredients necessary for the sustenance of our lives would add enormous impetus to the move off planet. This planet groans under its people; this planet is bound pole and Equator by the histories of its population. Just the simple knowledge that some-

where nearby, just around the corner in the solar system, another virgin world existed, untouched by life yet full of potential for the living would so excite the pressured, teeming masses of Earth that space colonization in some form would be inevitable.

Viking I and Viking II, their orbiters mapping most of Mars in detail unimaginable five years ago and their landers sending the most sophisticated data we can gather anywhere in the Universe, have rocked the structure of past and present understanding of geology, biology, meteorology, evolution, tectonics, erosion processes whether the effects are obvious or not. The man and woman in the street still shop at boutique, record bar, sidewalk café, department store, sporting shop, food market and the many other loci of daily life-transactions. The politicians still bluster and blandish the old promises for the never-ending changing scene of labor demands, management reservations, diplomatic blunderings, resurgent bloodshed and the many other bureaucratic obsessions of national existence. Yet, each and all play out their dramas on a stage which extends as far as the mind conceives and not the old terrestrial surface as before. For the scientists and technicians associated with the Space Revolution are studying geological processes on many worlds, examining weather processes in many atmospheres, experimenting with energy processes in many mediums and concentrating their attention and talents on the many other structural principles which underlie reality and their work brings consequences which cannot be curtailed or denied.

Tremblors from other quarters can be felt as well. July 6, 1976 the Soviet Union launched a two-man crew which linked up with their recently orbited space station Salyut 5 on July 7. The expectations in the West when the shot was underway were that the Soviets would attempt to set a new record breaking the 84 day one set by Skylab 3 in February 1974. In the event, the mission lasted seven weeks (49 days) with no indication from the Soviets whether this mission was aborted. It is difficult to know from the outside since the Soviet record for long manned missions is 63 days. Perhaps Soyuz 21, the mission just completed, is the first in a series which will see missions of longer and longer duration breaking the Soviet, if not American, record. Perhaps this mission was intended to last much longer but had to be ended (we might note that a few days before the cosmonauts returned to Earth Tass reported that they were feeling some sensory deprivation effects) prematurely. Perhaps the flight was a mission all to itself. In any event, the Soviets have learned more about their space capabilities which lessons will be analyzed for changes in their program to improve it.

Before humanity can exist in permanent settlements off planet in any numbers it will need to be conclusively established through actual living experiences that a few people can live in the Void for extended periods of time. The Soyuz 21 mission lasted 49 days for 2 people. As small an effort as it seems, it is a long step on the flight path to the 'giant' space station envisioned by the Soviets to be in orbit by the end of the next decade which will hold 24 individuals for six-month or longer work (rotation) periods. The Space Shuttle project, scheduled to take flight by late 1979, sending crews of seven to explore space for maybe a month at a time, hardly seems the foundation for large scale human settlement of space. Yet the Russian and American programs to construct space stations and re-usable spacecraft hold the key to future development of our capacities in space and point the way to our mastery of alien realms.

We have every reason to be confident that men and women can live in space all their lives and that this confidence will be born out in the future. The effects and results of space missions react with one another and emphasize their mutual evolution. The Russians will continue their pursuit of long term manned flight and we should not be surprised if another Soyuz mission occurs this year. Each successful launch by the Russians sustains our interest in our own projects and often stimulates us to do more. For this reason, spacers rejoice in every blast-off abroad. The Space Shuttle will not surprise us with its pace but the Viking missions and unmanned probes to come will provide the unexpected which serves to intensify the Space Revolution. In one year we will not recognize the solar system, and space prospects, we see now.

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ TREASURER'S REPORT \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

This month I have the pleasure to report some very happy news. The large donation which U.F.O.E.S.P. received last month is being used to excellent purpose and very wisely by the delegations to the conventions about which we have been speaking for months. The President and Treasurer attended WAACon for a very modest cost to the organization. Transportation, housing and food all were kept to a minimum and the conference cost was modest. The success of the delegation cannot be counted in money, although doorstickers were sold at a nominal cost (10¢ apiece) and brought in a small cash amount. The information table was shared with the L-5 Society, and since it was their table, we were only permitted to have one free handout for information about U.F.O.E.S.P. and the doorstickers. Still, this modest presentation was sufficient to spark interest in several people. The Treasurer, in particular, was able to speak with many convention attendees away from the hustle and bustle of convention events, and personally gave information sheets to some influential people. It was rewarding to have the time to speak with these persons and it also presented an opportunity to perfect the presentation of U.F.O.E.S.P. to the public. Many lessons were learned--all incalculable in money, but invaluable to the organization nonetheless.

Preparations for MIDAMERICON are almost complete. The final days before the convention are being spent in gathering the printed materials to be offered at the huckster table, as well as some last-minute writing of same. We will have all issues of Morale Booster available for examination, if not for sale; we will have copies of all three petitions available for sale until depletion; we will have an information sheet about U.F.O.E.S.P. and about CHRYSE-1, as well as a questionnaire to survey any interested in CHRYSE; we will have doorstickers for, again, a modest cost (25¢ this time). We found that giving away the doorstickers does not work! People walked past the free handout and free doorstickers, which was how we initially were presenting ourselves at the WAACon. However, when we posted a modest cost (10¢ in this case) for the doorstickers, people were happy to purchase them! We have decided to do some experimentation at MIDAMERICON on this issue as well, but have not made firm plans on the method as yet. There should be sufficient information to interest almost any attendee of MIDAMERICON.

The delegation to the convention has just recently completed its plans for transportation to Kansas City, and it pleases me to report that the cost has been kept to a minimum due to the availability of a ride from the west coast to Omaha. A 5-hour bus ride at modest cost will take us from Omaha to Kansas City. We hope to arrive there in the afternoon on September 2 to give ample time to set up the huckster table before the convention officially opens on September 3.

U.F.O.E.S.P. recently acquired two new posters, one of Mars from Deimos and one of the Milky Way in Sagittarius, which will be used in the display. We also have access to a poster of Antares with an interplanetary spaceship nearby. These pictures will help to beautify the huckster table as well as inspire both the delegation and the passersby.

Excitement mounts as the time draws near! There is much to be done, but slowly the delegation is advancing towards the opening of the convention.

We have been pleased to have two new activated members (Paulsrude and Bytof) as this activation encourages us to believe that the message of U.F.O.E.S.P. is being taken well. We are an activist organization. We encourage our members to the fullest participation in all events and propaganda. There is much to be accomplished if we are to realize our dreams of living in space; we have no time to lose!

Whenever we have been permitted to speak our message it has always been taken positively. There are those times, of course, when doubters have questioned our programs and those times have had their difficulties. It is usually because the doubters have all these challenges to space in general and they are unwilling to listen to any message. We think that MIDAMERICON will present us with fewer doubters than the general public. One of the pleasures of the WAACon was that every person with whom I spoke was FOR space and FOR the future. In fact, in one conversation as I was outlining our program the other person broke in and said "Hey--I'm already convinced that space is the place!"

* * * * * interlude * * * * *

The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) and the FASST organization are pleased to announce a student conference on "The Search For Life In Our Solar System". The conference is to be held October 8th at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California. Participation is limited to college and university students.

Several major scientists involved in the search for extraterrestrial life, including key Viking Project personnel, have been invited to participate in this student symposium. The October conference will deal with the following issues:

- Evolution of our Cosmic Perspective
- The Biology of the Solar System
- Development of the Viking Program & First Results
- The Future of Unmanned Probes
- Manned Exploration of the Planet Mars
- After Viking--What?
- Our Place in the Universe & the Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence

A final program and listing of speakers is available on request from FASST. A small registration fee (less than \$10.00) will include the closing dinner.

The conference is being designed so that students can develop a better understanding of the biological, geoscientific, as well as the engineering contributions being made to the search for life by our planetary space exploration programs.

For additional information, please contact Leonard David, Director of Student Programs, FASST, 1785 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

The Forum for the Advancement of Students in Science and Technology (FASST), is a national organization committed to increasing student awareness of, and opportunities for involvement in the issues concerning science and technology.

But what is true for the ecology of suns is not true for unity of the personal energy of the millions who need and desire the space experience.

We speak of energy transferral and energy coagulation. The Void is so empty that we could spend hours in metaphor describing its general lack of everything. The suns and moons and solar system, the island Universes the telescope registers for billions upon billions of light-years are specks in the Void, lost in Vacuum. To spew the destructive energy of bloodshed, transformed by the Space Revolution into star bases and moon colonies, into the Void is to dissipate it so rapidly that it's power is quickly diminished. The Universe is vast; it consumes all the energies of men. There is enough Universe for us all. This is the promise of the Space Revolution.

Unfortunately, the rewards, nature, and consequences of human expansion into space are not clearly articulated or overt for the population at large. For the most part, the random person views space missions as entertainment spectacles, which they are in part. However, the deeper effects, even in such obvious areas of daily life as communications or weather, of the Space Revolution are not accentuated by the media and so are lost to view. We must also consider in this context the historical condition of the past of the idea of space travel. For many thousands of years, the idea was the product of dream, myth, religion, or social consciousness and thus always possessed of the flavor of the fantastic. Just two decades ago, all that past was repudiated with the beginning of the Space Revolution. Mechanical Man roams the Solar System where flesh and blood does not. Our listening devices are tuned to all energy channels and we study everything we hear. Humanity blindly advances into Space while the War Machine gains speed. Distractions, alas, aplenty abound. Herein lie the greatest difficulties for spacers. The obscuring effects of history, war and media proclivities must be overcome, must be neutralized when not turned to positive advantage.

In our next issue, the discussion will continue.

CHRYSE QUESTIONNAIRE

CHRYSE-1 (The First Convocation [Humanistic Revolutionary] of Space Enthusiasts) will be held in the summer of 1977. This questionnaire is designed to survey those interested in attending in order to set up the most beneficial and useful convocation. Please feel free to comment at length on the back of this form.

NAME _____ Date _____

ADDRESS _____

ORGANIZATION AFFILIATION _____

ORGANIZATION ADDRESS _____

Please rank-order your choices.

POSSIBLE LOCATIONS: Southern California _____

Washington, DC _____

Denver _____

San Francisco area _____

Other: _____

POSSIBLE CONFERENCE LENGTH: One day _____

Two days _____

Three days _____

POSSIBLE DATES: Late June _____

Early July _____

Late July _____

Early August _____

Late August _____

PREFERENCES OF EMPHASIS: Political Action _____

Colonization _____

Technology _____

Other: _____

(please cut along dotted line.)